From: mearle

To: Microsoft ATR

Date: 1/22/02 2:52pm

Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Microsoft is arguably one of the most innovative companies in existance today. Their undeniable impact on the accessability of computers, and gains in productivity are only one reason Microsoft should be left alone. The people at Microsoft produce things they like, and are good enough at making their goods to earn a profit. What now does it say to the future geniuses of this new century if the life work of others is altered just because others can't come up with something better?

Some say that Microsoft has used its "monopolistic" power to prevent other corporations from competing. Microsoft has never had the power (and never could in our republic) to prevent me from buying software from a competing firm. Consumers still willingly, year after year, make Windows their choice over products from Apple, IBM, Sun, and Linux companies. No proposed legal remedy would improve these other companies' products. Since they can't win freely in the marketplace, their plan is to hamstring their better adversary.

Punishing Microsoft only lowers the standards for every one.

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